2020 PIO/CFO Summit

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OMB Circular A-123 History

• 1981 – OMB First Issued Circular No. A-123, Internal Control Systems

• 1982 – OMB Issued Internal Control Guidelines and the Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act was enacted

• 1983 – OMB Issued an Updated Circular No. A-123, Internal Control Systems

• 1986 – OMB Updated A-123 to Require Management Control Plans to guide efforts

• 1995 – OMB updated A-123, Management Accountability of Internal Control to reflect GPRA, CFO Act, IG Act


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The Drive for Evidence-based Policymaking
Session T100

Panelists

- Jason Bossie, Director, Program Performance, Analysis and Evaluation, Small Business Administration
- Christine Heflin, Director, Performance Excellence, U.S. Department of Commerce
- Jed Herrmann, Vice President, State and Federal Policy Implementation, Results for America

- Moderator: Amber Heimberg, Director, Guidehouse
What is the Evidence Act and how does it impact agencies?

Polling Question #1 - Are you familiar with the Evidence Act and what it requires agencies to do?

Choices: Very Familiar; Somewhat Familiar; I’ve heard of it, but not sure of the details; Evidence Act, what’s that?
Evidence Act Overview

• **Foundations for Evidence-based Policymaking Act**
  - Improve federal use of data
  - Designate key officials
  - Assess agency activities
  - Open data
  - Produce learning agenda, evaluation plan, and capacity assessment

• More info on **Results for America** Evidence Act Hub: Results4America.org/evidence-act-resources/

The Evidence Act at DOC

• Strong Support from the Deputy Secretary
• Chief Data Officer, Evaluation Officer, and Statistical Official one team
• Commerce Data Governance Board is the Board of Directors
  • Subcommittees lead action
• Broad guidance to bureaus
  • Bureaus customize approach
• Evidence work integrated with Performance
SBA Progress in Evidence Act Implementation

- Appointed EO, SO, and CDO who work within the SBA’s Office of Performance Management and the Chief Financial Officer

- Established a Data Governance Board and hold weekly meetings on progress with Evidence Act officials

- Published SBA’s third Enterprise Learning Agenda and first Annual Evaluation Plan, which is available at www.sba.gov/evaluation

- Developed approach to interim capacity assessment and in process of testing with select offices

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Early Successes and Challenges of the Evidence Act

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Evidence Act Early Activities

• Early agency activities
  • Designated key officials
  • Created internal governance structures
  • Cross agency councils

• More info about early activities via Results for America
  Federal Standard of Excellence:
  https://2019-results4america.org/

SBA’s Results-Driven Framework

Plan
  Strategic Plan
  Annual Performance Plan
  Agency Priority Goal Plans
  Enterprise Learning Agenda
  Annual Evaluation Plan

Report and Adjust Strategy
  Annual Performance Report
  Agency Financial Report
  Executive Performance Dashboard
  Agency Priority Goals Reporting
  Program Evaluation Reports

Analyze and Evaluate
  Performance Analysis
  Performance Dashboards
  Program Evaluation Monitoring
  Evidence and Research Synthesis

Review and Discuss Results
  Quarterly Deep Dive Reviews
  Annual Strategic Objective Review
  Program Management Reviews
  Annual Measures / Target Review
  Program Evaluation Briefings
Roses Parallel Thorns

- Diverse Programs with Strong Cultures
  - Rose – Bureau pride in product
  - Thorn – Coordination is labor intensive
- Best demographic and economic data in the world
  - Rose – Peerless raw material and statistical knowhow
  - Thorn – Statistical agencies oriented toward specialized external customers
- Evidence integral to operations
  - Rose – Science agencies produce and use high quality evidence
  - Thorn – Few line items for evaluation

Evidence Act First
Milestones: Learning Agendas and Capacity Assessments
Polling Question #2 - How familiar are you with Learning Agendas or Capacity Assessment activities at your agency?

Choices: Very Familiar - I was actively involved in creating them; Somewhat Familiar – I’ve read them; I think I saw an email about them; Have never heard of either

Evidence Act Milestones

• Learning Agenda
  • Draft due in September
  • Stakeholder engagement is key

• Capacity Assessment
  • Draft due in September
  • Important to focus on improving agency results

• More info on Results for America Evidence Act Hub:
  Results4America.org/evidence-act-resources/
Achievements and “To Do”

• Learning Agenda
  - Achievement - Questions and themes identified
  - To Do – Update priorities in light of COVID 19
  - To DO – Identify best data sets and methodologies for questions

• Capacity Assessment
  - Achievement – Initial information
  - Achievement – Integrated into Data Skills Assessment
  - To Do – Distinguish between research capacity and evaluation capacity
  - To Do – Increase capacity for orchestration

Future Opportunities with Evidence and Performance Integration

• Enhancing the usage and curation of micro-data and analytic tools by program and project managers to drive decisions

• Building stronger connections between federal agencies and their customers and stakeholders to enhance service delivery and improve transparency of performance

• Strengthening partnerships with other agencies and researchers to build more rigorous research, performance data, and other evidence
Questions?